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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-02000  
Customer No. 22882  
Express Mail Label No. ER521778580US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Gary K. Michelson, M.D. )  
Serial No.: 09/921,851 )  
Filed: August 3, 2001 )  
For: METHOD FOR FORMING A )  
SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE )  
CONFIGURATION (as amended) )

Confirmation No.: 8299

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: B. Snow

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

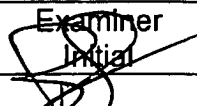
FEB 25 2004

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Sir:

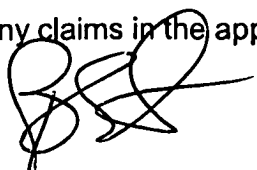
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the following U.S. co-pending application of Applicant, the claims of which are attached hereto. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p).

NOT FOR PUBLICATION			
Examiner Initial	Application Number	Filing/Issue Date	Publication/ Patent No.
	09/572,518	17MAY2000	

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed above, indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations in the appropriate column, and return a copy of this sheet to the Applicant.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claims in the application and applicant determines that the cited document

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